

In The Specification:

On page 1 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the first full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

The present invention concerns a device for climate control of a motor vehicle seat ~~according to the preamble of claim 1~~. In particular, it concerns a device for climate control of a motor vehicle seat with a cushion core for supporting a passenger, having an upper air distribution device at a front side of the cushion core facing the passenger to distribute air along the front side of the cushion core, and having a lower air distribution device at its rear side facing away from the passenger to distribute air along the rear side of the cushion core, and a connecting device for transferring air between the first and second air distribution devices.

On page 1 of the English language translation of the specification, please add the following new heading before the second full paragraph of the specification and also amend the second full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Background

Known from ~~US 15 41 213 B~~ U.S. Patent No. 1,541,213 and from ~~US 29 22 466 B~~ U.S. Patent No. 2,922,466 are seat cushions in which a plurality of coils arranged next to one another in a single plane form a spacer layer between the seat and the user. This is intended to prevent excessive sweating on the part of the user. No actual control of moisture transport is provided herein.

On page 1 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the third full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Known from ~~US 29 92 604 B~~ U.S. Patent No. 2,992,604 is a seat cushion that can be separated from the seat in which air is moved by a fan and blown into a coil pad resting on the seat. In colder weather, especially in winter, however, such cushions must ~~however~~ be removed to make it possible to activate an existing seat heater. Otherwise the seat cushion would screen the passenger from the heat produced by the seat heater to an excessive degree, thus rendering the heater largely ineffective.

On page 2 of the English language translation of the specification, please add the following new heading before the first full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Summary of the Invention

On page 2 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the second full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

~~This object is attained with the subject matter of the independent claim. Features of advantageous refinements of the invention are found in the dependent claims. The present invention provides a device for climate control of a motor vehicle seat with a cushion core for supporting a passenger, having an upper air distribution device at a front side of the cushion core facing the passenger to distribute air along the front side of the cushion core, and having a lower air distribution device at its rear side facing away from the passenger to distribute air along the rear side of the cushion core, and a connecting device for transferring air between the first and second air distribution devices. Each of the first and second air distribution devices and the connecting device has an elongated hollow space. Further, at least one support element in the form a spiral spring, is provided in the air-conducting cross-section of at least one of the hollow spaces.~~

On page 2 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the third full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

A device according to the invention ~~with the features of claim 1 makes provision that provides~~ an upper air distribution device is provided at a front side of a cushion core facing a passenger in order to distribute air along the front side of the cushion core. Moreover, a corresponding lower air distribution device is provided at the rear side of the cushion core facing away from the passenger. In addition, a connecting device is provided to transfer air between the first and second air distribution devices. Each of the three devices has an elongated hollow space. ~~Provision is made that~~ Further, at least one support element in the form of a spiral spring is provided in the air-conducting cross-section of at least one such hollow space.

On page 2 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the fourth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Provision is also made that additional, and in particular electrical, functional elements are arranged in a region or in a remaining space between a base layer, a cover layer and a support element of the device. In one example, at least one of the three devices is provided with a base layer, an intermediate layer and a cover layer. The layers are arranged so as to at least partially overlap one another. The intermediate layer has at least one support element for the transmission of mechanical loads between the base layer and cover layer. Additional functional elements, such as electrical elements, can be arranged in the space remaining between the base layer, cover layer and the support element. The functional element can be a sensor for detecting pressure and/or temperature. The functional element can also be arranged directly beneath the support element. The functional element can be an electrical conductor, such as a flat cable, a round cable, or a heating conductor. In one embodiment, it is equipped with one or more heating components, such as PTC components.

On page 2 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the fifth full paragraph of the specification as well as add a new sixth full paragraph to the specification both to appear as follows:

One embodiment of the invention provides that the device according to the invention is joined material-to-material to the cushion core. In a further aspect of the invention, the device is joined to the cushion core by foam molding during the manufacture of the cushion core. A substantially liquid-impermeable layer can be provided which is arranged on the side of the intermediate layer facing the cushion core, and can be made of the same material as the cushion core, such as polyurethane.

In yet a further aspect, at least one conductor, such as a heating conductor, is provided which is arranged in at least one intermediate space between two support elements in the intermediate layer, or in an intermediate space formed by a support element in the intermediate layer. Alternatively, or in addition, a plurality of elongated, substantially parallel intermediate spaces are formed by the support elements. At least one, preferably insulated, heating conductor is arranged in at least two such intermediate spaces. The heating conductor can be fixed to the device,

such as to the base layer or cover layer, at the transition from one intermediate space to the other intermediate space. An adhesive strip can function to fix the heating conductor. The strip may be arranged essentially perpendicular to the intermediate spaces.

On page 4 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the second full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

In accordance with one embodiment of the invention, the support element can have a spring, in particular preferably a spring coiled in a spiral or meandering shape, which can in particular consist of comprise or be made from a band-shaped plastic material. Provision can be made that the support element 14 is made of a firm but flexible material. The support element preferably includes multiple springs on a supporting layer that carries them, a spacer textile with a large air volume that is kept open, a foam with a surface structure that in particular has a napped profile and/or a rubberized hair mat with bristles or made from or with, for example, a nonwoven material.

On page 6 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the second full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

A textile layer, in particular, comes into consideration as can be considered for the base layer. This textile layer of the base layer can in particular have a nonwoven mat, a foam and/or a film. The base layer is preferably thick enough to prevent support elements and/or functional elements from showing through. Furthermore, the base layer can at least in part be translucent or transparent. Moreover, it can be advantageous if the base layer is impermeable to water vapor and water-resistant. The base layer can, for example, be composed of the cushion core of the motor vehicle seat, a region of the intermediate layer that has increased density, a seat cover, and/or a planar heating element.

On page 6 and continuing on page 7 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the third full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

A textile layer, in particular, ~~comes into consideration as can also be considered for~~ the cover layer. This textile layer of the ~~base~~ cover layer can in particular have a nonwoven mat, a foam and/or a film. The cover layer is preferably thick enough to prevent support elements and/or functional elements from showing through. Furthermore, the cover layer can at least in part be translucent or transparent. Moreover, it can be advantageous if the cover layer is impermeable to water vapor and water-resistant. The cover layer can, for example, be composed of the cushion core of the motor vehicle seat, a region of the intermediate layer that has increased density, a seat cover, and/or a planar heating element.

On page 10 of the English language translation of the specification, please add the following new heading before the first full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Brief Description Of The Drawings

The invention is described in detail below on the basis of preferred example embodiments with reference to the attached drawings. These show:

On page 10 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the second full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 1 shows a schematic, perspective view of a cushion core[[],].

On page 10 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the third full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 2 shows another schematic, perspective view of a cushion core[[],].

On page 10 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the fourth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 3 shows a schematic, perspective view to illustrate various variants of a base layer[[],].

On page 10 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the fifth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 4 shows a schematic, perspective view of a cushion of a motor vehicle seat[[],].

On page 10 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the sixth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 5 shows a cross-sectional view of the motor vehicle seat from Fig. 4[[],].

On page 10 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the seventh full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 6 shows a cross-sectional view of a first structural variant of the cushion core[[],].

On page 11 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the first full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 7 shows a cross-sectional view of an alternative structural variant of the cushion core[[],].

On page 11 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the second full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 8 shows a cross-sectional view of another structural variant of the cushion core[[],].

On page 11 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the third full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 9 shows a perspective view of a first embodiment of a support element[[],].

On page 11 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the fourth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 10 shows a perspective view of another embodiment of a support element[[],].

On page 11 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the fifth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 11 shows a schematic view of a supporting layer with incorporated support elements[[],].

On page 11 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the sixth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 12 shows a structural variant of an intermediate layer with recessed and raised surface regions[[],].

On page 11 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the seventh full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 13 shows a design for a cover layer with surface structure applied thereto[[],].

On page 11 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the eighth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 14 shows a first variant of a motor vehicle seat with ventilating device arranged thereon[[],].

On page 11 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the ninth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 15 shows an alternative variant of a ventilating device joined to the intermediate layer[[],].

On page 12 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the first full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 16 shows a schematic representation illustrating an air duct[[],].

On page 12 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the second full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 17 shows another representation of a motor vehicle seat with heating element applied to its upper side[[],].

On page 12 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the third full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Figs. 18 – 21 show various representations of coupling the ventilating device to the intermediate layer[[],].

On page 12 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the fourth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Figs. 22 and 23 show alternative structural variations of the base layer with support elements or conductive elements applied thereto[[],].

On page 12 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the fifth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 24 shows a schematic cross-sectional representation to illustrate an alternative for coupling the ventilating device to the intermediate layer, and.

On page 12 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the sixth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 25 shows a schematic cross-sectional representation of a motor vehicle seat with an inventive device.

On page 12 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the seventh full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 26 shows another embodiment of the invention in perspective view.

On page 12 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the eighth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 27 shows an electrical equivalent schematic of the arrangement from Fig. 26.

On page 12 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the ninth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 28 shows a cross-section through a seat with an arrangement from Fig. 26.

On page 13 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the first full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Fig. 29 shows a longitudinal section through a seat with details of attachment of the ventilating device.

On page 13 of the English language translation of the specification, please add the following new heading before the second full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Detailed Description

Fig. 1 shows the basic structure of a device according to the invention in schematic, perspective view, using the example of a cushion. The cushion shown as the composite component comprises a bottom cushion core 22 and a base layer 8 placed thereon and joined to the cushion core, which base layer is preferably designed as a layer 76 that is impermeable to liquids. Located on the relatively thin base layer 8 is an intermediate layer 10 that is applied thereto and covered with a cover layer 12. The same situation, but without the cover layer 12, is shown once again in Fig. 2.

On page 13 and continuing on page 14 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the fourth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

The schematic perspective view in Fig. 3 shows different design possibilities for the base layer 8, which can have multiple strips arranged adjacent to one another. Located above the base layer 8 is the intermediate layer 10. A first strip has functional elements 18, which can take the form of fillers 48, for example. A second strip adjacent thereto encompasses a support element 14 incorporated therein, which can take the form, for example, of a coil spring or the like. In addition, a functional element 18 in the form of a sensor 40 and/or an actuator 46 can be applied to this center section of the base layer 8. The sensor 40 can be embodied as a temperature sensor, for example. The third strip has a conducting device 42 in the form of a heating wire or the like, as well as a support element 14 extending in a meandering shape. The cover layer 12 over this is merely indicated. Thus, the functional elements 18 can be arranged in the space between the base layer 8, the cover layer 12 and the support element 14.

On page 22 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the second full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

The schematic top view in Fig. 23 illustrates a heating conductor 44 that is affixed to the base layer 8 in an intermediate space 90 in the intermediate layer. The heating conductor is laid helically on the base layer 8. In this example embodiment, a number or a plurality of elongated intermediate spaces 88, 88', which are parallel to one another, are formed by the support elements 14. A conducting device 42 in the form of an insulated heating conductor 44 extends in the intermediate spaces 88, 88'. The heating conductor 44 is affixed to the base layer 8 in a transition 92 from one intermediate space 88 to the other intermediate space 88'. In the example embodiment shown, this attachment is accomplished by means of strips 94 of adhesive material that are arranged perpendicular to the intermediate spaces 88, 88'. However, provision may also be made for the strips 94 to be embodied as electrodes.